

RACE MIXTURE*

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THE immense advances in the last hundred years in the medical sciences and their application have greatly reduced death-rates, not only in civilized countries, but in savage countries as well. As a result there has occurred a general increase of population and thus of migration, which has had important effects—economic, social, moral, religious and biological—both on the peoples who have provided the emigrants and on those who have received them.

We must accept it as a fact that large numbers of different races cannot live side by side and compete for their daily bread without the production of racial mixture. There is one exception to this generalization : in proportion as there is intense antagonism, usually religious, the mixing of the races will be lessened. The practical drawbacks, however, to such a method of race-separation, are proved by the history of India. We need merely note that race-mixing will take place when opportunity occurs and ask ourselves how far is this process desirable. It is a question that cannot be answered in a word, because the nature of the races crossed is important.

THE PRIMARY RACES

Mankind may be divided into three Primary Races: (1) The Negro, black-skinned, with short woolly hair and, typically, African; (2) The Mongolian, yellow-skinned, with long straight hair and, typically, Asiatic; (3) The Caucasian, white-skinned, with abundant wavy hair and, typically, European. These groups may be subdivided, but I propose to do so only in the last case, classifying the Caucasians as the Fair Caucasians of the north and west of Europe and the Dark Caucasians of the south and east.

So great are the differences between these three Primary Races that they are comparable to the differences between the species of the zoologist rather than to those between the varieties. Therefore, the crosses between Primary Races will be described as hybrids, and the offspring of the more closely related varieties and of the half-breeds, as mongrels.

EFFECTS OF HYBRIDIZATION

It may be said that the bulk of medical opinion is against hybridization between the Primary Races and that the best eugenic opinion is definitely against it. Thus, Major Leonard Darwin wrote: "Theoretical reasons can be adduced for believing that inter-breeding between widely divergent races may result in the production of types inferior to both parent stocks: and that this would be the result of miscegenation is at all events a common belief." Professor Ruggles Gates also supports this view. The biological objection is based upon the fact that, in these crosses, groups of inherited characteristics remain associated or "segregate," with the result that the offspring has a "chaotic constitution." Each variety of man or of animal, in the course of time, acquires a constitution adapted to its particular mode of life and to the diseases to which it is exposed. When such constitutions are mixed by inter-breeding, a new constitution is produced, which is not adapted to the mode of life of either parent and too often is not fitted for any actual environment whatever.

As examples of simple skeletal maladaptations, we find hybrids with skulls too large to permit of their birth; others with teeth too large for their jaws; and others with either the upper or the lower jaw a misfit with its neighbour. There are, however, many more complicated disabilities, such as altered resistance to disease and disharmonies of the internal secretions. It is found

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that the greater the difference between the races crossed, the less likely is the result to be beneficial: that the Caucasian is nearer to the Mongolian than either is to the Negro, and that the Dark Caucasian is nearer to the Mongolian than is the Fair Caucasian, and so the Dark Caucasian cross is the less harmful of the two.

These generalizations, to which there may be exceptions, are supported by the American, Professor N. S. Shaler:

"It is not only a general belief that hybrids of blacks and whites are less prolific and more liable to diseases than the pure bloods of either stock, but also that they seldom live so long. Statistics lacking on this point, I have questioned a large number of physicians well placed for judgment in this matter. All of them agreed that the offspring of a union between pure black and white parents is, on the average, much shorter lived and much less fertile than the race of either parent. My father, a physician of experience and a critical observer, who had spent more than half a century in Cuba and the slave-holding South, stated that, in his opinion, he had never seen mulattoes, that is a cross between white and pure black, who had attained the age of sixty years, and that they were often sterile. The judgment of medical men seems to be that when the blood of either race preponderates, and in proportion as it verges to one or the other, the longevity and fertility increase or decrease."

THE FACTOR OF ENVIRONMENT

This opinion, then, supports the view that hybrids are usually worse than mongrels. I would, however, remind you that there is more in this matter of heredity. There is environment as well. While it is no doubt hereditary effects which interest us in the first place, we must cultivate a broad outlook and give full consideration to those other effects which are scarcely less important because they are environmental. That at any rate is the eugenic standpoint. Race-mixture may alter many factors in the

environment, such as family-life, language, education, religion, and the whole standard of living and of civilization. We must, then, answer the question: Is the environment of the hybrid likely to be as good as that of the child of pure race? The answer is, No! Often it will be worse even than that of the race of the inferior parent. Too often the hybrid is illegitimate, hating his white father and despising his black mother. But even if his parents are married and there is no racial prejudice against mixed marriages where they live, it is exceedingly unlikely that the environment will be good, for at least one of the parents is almost certain to be reckless, improvident, disinclined to settle down, and with poor ideals of parenthood.

In considering how these factors will affect the offspring, it should be recalled that the character of a child is formed at a very early age, and that it is impossible to over-estimate the importance of the parents as a factor in his environment. No one, certainly no one who has been married, could doubt that the married life of parents of such widely different races as European and Negro would be grossly inharmonious, with consequent disadvantages to the children of the marriage.

The United States presents these problems on the largest scale and has devoted much research to them. Indeed, in many States the American view is crystallized into laws absolutely forbidding marriage between white and coloured persons. Furthermore, as the statistics of divorce show, family life in the United States is less stable than it was. I attribute this instability, in very large measure, to the mixed blood of the bulk of her citizens. It is said that people of foreign birth and their children make up one-third of her population, while another third has had one foreign parent. Under such conditions, it must be increasingly difficult to find two partners for life with similar ideals, tastes and outlook, and there would be a growing tendency for marriages to result purely from mutual sex-attraction. This is indeed a valuable ingredient in married life, but marriages of which it is the main

foundation are not likely to be a permanent success.

It is noteworthy that many of the American cases to which I refer are marriages between Europeans of different races. If instability is a characteristic of such marriages, it must be commoner still in the hybrid marriages between the Primary Races, and commoner still when these unions occur without a marriage ceremony.

CROSSES BETWEEN ALLIED RACES

On the other hand, crosses between races that are closely akin, whether of men or of animals, may result in superior and vigorous offspring, at least in some cases. This is of especial interest to ourselves, because it supports the view of such authorities as T. H. Huxley that the races which intermingled in these islands must have been closely allied by blood; for it cannot be denied that the intermarriages of all the peoples who crossed the North Sea, both with each other and with the earlier inhabitants of Britain, produced a vigorous and efficient people.

That this kinship may have been closer than is popularly supposed is also suggested by the fact that, among the more distinct nationalities of Europe, it is very difficult to decide where to place the line dividing those who are good or bad for crossing with each other. So much is this the case that one authority, Professor Eliot of Harvard, considers that the marriage of people of different European races produces children weaker and less able than those whose parents belong to the same nation.

AMERICAN VIEWS AND EXPERIENCE

The prejudice and emotion that may be aroused by this question of race mixture are abundantly shown in the diametrically opposed opinions, expressed with the greatest vehemence, which may be found in the copious (mainly American) literature on the subject. This vast literature, these prejudices and emotions, not only give a measure of the importance of the problems concerned, but illustrate one of the drawbacks to the close

intermingling of different races. Booker T. Washington, himself a coloured man and the founder of the Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, the foremost Negro educational establishment in the world, said that "the problem is not so much what the white man will do with the Negro, as what the Negro will do with the white man and his civilization." Other serious writers hold that the ultimate future of the United States of America will be to be inhabited by a mixed race of Caucasian-Negro hybrids and mongrels with a dash of Mongolian from the Red Indian stock. It happens that South America is already peopled mainly by such a mixed race, although the proportion of American Indian, that is to say of Mongolian, is higher in most parts; and, with the South American example of instability, backwardness, political and other weaknesses at their door, it is small wonder that the white Americans are alarmed for the future of their country, quite apart from any emotions which might be attributed to race-prejudice.

Nor is political instability the only issue, for the biological weakness of the hybrid stock is attested by such an authority as F. L. Hoffman, of the Prudential Insurance Company of America, who asserts that the people of mixed race in the United States are physically inferior to either the pure white or black. This inferiority, he says, is shown in their weaker vitality and less resistance to disease. This view is reinforced by the interesting observation in the Philippines, that, among the men of the United States' Forces invalided home, the ratio of blondes to brunettes was as 100 to 126. Moreover, it was the brunettes among whom the proportion of mixed bloods and especially of Negro-white mixtures would be highest, who suffered especially from neurasthenia and tuberculosis.

MONGOLIAN HYBRIDS

When from the Caucasian-Negro hybrid we turn to the Caucasian-Mongolian, we find (according to Dr. J. A. Mjøen, of Norway, who has made a special study of the hybrids between the Lapps, who are Mongolians, and the Scandinavians, who are exceptionally

pure Fair-Caucasians) that the offspring are inferior to either of their parents. "They are often mentally and physically unsound; they are more likely to be a burden on the State, both from moral and physical infirmity; they are far more subject to tuberculosis." He urges that "until we have more definite knowledge of the effect of race-crossings, we shall certainly do our best to avoid crossings between widely different races." "Crossings," he repeats, "between widely different races can lower the physiological and mental level."

Professor H. Lundborg, of Sweden, supports this view and urges that "we must also pay great attention to immigration so that inferior individuals belonging to foreign races cannot enter the country and settle without any hindrance. A mixture between nations who, from a race-biological point of view, stand high and others containing lower race-elements is certainly to be condemned."

In connection with the Mongolian-Negro hybrid, there is little recent scientific observation. As the Mongolian is closer, biologically, to the Negro than is the Caucasian, my impression is that the Mongolian-Negro cross is less detrimental. Cases occur, for example in Jamaica, but they are not regarded with enthusiasm, either socially or biologically.

SOCIOLOGICAL PROBLEM OF RACE MIXTURE

That is the biological side, but we must remember that immigration of different races leads to the complication of a whole host of administrative problems which are all too difficult already in modern civilization. One need only instance the segregation of races, as in the "Jim Crow" cars on railways in the Southern States; the racial friction which often expresses itself in lynchings; the economic problems and trade disputes due to wage-cutting and to different standards of living; the legal problems, often of the most distressing kind, due to laws in the United States rendering illegal marriages between white and coloured persons, and the profound effect upon the life

of the nation produced by the Negroes and hybrids.

It is not generally realized how great is this effect already. It is likely to become even greater. Not only because the number of people with some negro blood in their veins is increasing (and I would remind you that there are some twelve million Negroes and coloured persons in the States), but also because the Negro is increasing in material prosperity and in education. It will become progressively more difficult to limit his political power in the Southern States and his political power in the North is much greater than it was before the war. Little wonder, then, that there are many Americans who feel that all is not well with their culture, art, music, sexual-morality, family-life and religion, and who attribute much of the alleged deterioration to the effect of the extraordinary mixture of races and colours and unassimilated aliens present in the "Melting Pot," as Israel Zangwill termed the United States.

A CONTROLLED EXPERIMENT

But for those who feel that we cannot yet see the end of the greatest experiment on earth in race-mixing, a striking historical case exists in the fate of the people of the Northern Kingdom of Israel, after they began freely to intermarry with foreigners. It may be recalled how they rapidly forsook their religion and became idolaters, soon acquiring all the vices of the surrounding nations and losing their own virtues. They deteriorated until they became so weak that they fell a prey to their neighbours, the Assyrians. Later, the same thing happened to the Southern Kingdom of Judah. The prophet Nehemiah well knew both the direct and the indirect effects of race-mixture, and it was not without good reason that he cried to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, after their return from Babylon: "Shall we then hearken unto you to do all this great evil, to trespass against our God in marrying strange women" (xiii, 27). The parallelism is striking. The same sequence of events occurred both in the Northern Kingdom of Israel, and then, more than a century later, in the

Southern Kingdom of Judah : race-mixture, deterioration ; defeat and captivity.

Here we have two clean scientific experiments, both on a nation-wide scale. The second may be regarded as a control. Both produced the same result and clearly demonstrated cause and effect. If, in Palestine, the result of this mixing of rather similar races was unfavourable, which cannot be denied, we should expect an even less favourable result when the primary races are crossed. And, indeed, we find that our deductions are justified, and that when a similar experiment is made in modern times history repeats itself. In the United States there was a people, mainly of Caucasian stock like the Israelites, and like them believing in a monotheistic religion and enjoying a relatively superior civilization. The introduction of people of a different race, idolaters and of a relatively inferior civilization, has led to racial mixture. The result, in the words of Professor Van Dyke of Princeton University, is "perhaps the greatest and most perplexing problem that any nation has ever had to face." While W. P. Livingstone declared, "so gigantic does the problem appear, so difficult of peaceful solution, that the nation is helpless in face of it. . . . It remains, what it has been for a century, the darkest and most menacing cloud on the horizon of national life." Can it be doubted that the many Americans who agree with these writers wish that their nation had devoted more time in the past to the study of eugenics and ethnology and had acted on its results?

POSSIBILITIES OF THE FUTURE

Any race which is in possession of a land should take all these facts into consideration. Such a race is morally bound to give the closest attention to the effects of race-migration, not only as it affects the present generation of its citizens, but as it affects the future generations, both as regards their heredity and their environment.

It is surely of great significance that all the peoples of our own Celtic-Anglo-Saxon stock who have had the most practical experience of these problems are doing their utmost to

exclude the Mongolian and the Negro races from their countries. I need only refer to recent legislation in Canada, Australia and the United States to show this. But this is much more than an Imperial problem, it affects the future of the white race itself and through it the future of civilization.

The Report of the Census Director of South Africa stated that, unless increased by accessions from abroad, the European race in South Africa "must for ever abandon the prospect of maintaining a white civilization, except as a proportionately diminishing minority in face of an increasing and ultimately overwhelming majority. It may then be forced to abandon its domination or even abandon the country." These are the words of a serious official report and they should make us think. The Negro in the past has not shown any great genius for stable political institutions. The native states established a century ago in South Africa ended in collapse. The Black Republics of Hayti and Santo Domingo in the West Indies are examples of Negro rule after a considerable degree of white influence and their record is one of wholesale massacre. Even in Liberia, at the present day, slavery and torture are common. Thus, there is good reason to fear that if Africa is to fall back under Negro rule, it will deserve its name—the Dark Continent.

When we turn to the Mongolian races of Asia, we must recognize that, speaking practically, they are the most serious menace to the Caucasian race. Even now we are feeling severely the commercial competition of one of them and there is nothing incredible in the idea of another invasion of Europe from the East. It has happened several times before, and evidences of these invasions remain, not only in written history, but in the Hungarians and the Lapps, who are Mongolians, and in the Alpine Sub-race which is Asiatic in origin.

We have all heard of the Yellow Peril, and a recent writer expresses his opinion of its reality in three words—" *Ex oriente—Nox!* " That is one view of the ethnological future. For us it is a gloomy one, but there is another—and you may take your choice—

which is that the world will ultimately be peopled by an intimate compound of white and yellow and black. It may be! Some people profess to look forward gladly to that time when national rivalries shall be no more, because nations will have ceased to provide that variety which is the spice of life, all sunk into a monotonous morass having the colour of coffee and milk. But if these alternatives are to be avoided—and I hope that this is still possible—it can only be through our studying the problems of race-mixture and by acting before it is too late. The impression I have formed is that, until our real knowledge of heredity has made very great advances, any policy of encouraging racial mixtures is a gamble which is unjustified. Our progress will be more certain and more rapid if we apply the principles of positive and of negative eugenics to the races which already exist. Eugenists are absolutely confident that all these races can be improved biologically and no one denies that they are also capable of improvement socially and environmentally.

THE NEED FOR "SEGREGATION"

Difficult as it undoubtedly is, some form of mass-segregation of races seems to be desirable but, by this term, I do not mean complete segregation. The ideal would seem to be that teachers, administrators, judges and doctors should have access to the more backward races and that interchange of ideas should be allowed full play. In this way, each people would make its contribution to the culture of the world and would have the opportunity of fuller development. If some of these races showed themselves more fitted than others to certain districts of the world and proved their survival value, they would tend to spread and the present inhabitants of these districts would in time be reduced to vanishing point. This has been the course of biological progress in the past and it is still its truest course in the present state of our knowledge.

We have seen that the effects of hybridization between the Primary Races are bad, both biologically and socially, and that they are likely to be especially bad if one race is primitive, while the other is in an advanced state of civilization.

Among primitive peoples of the same Primary Race, there appears to be less objection to intermarriage. Biologically, there may be an accession of hybrid vigour and the production of more efficient types: on the other hand, there may be degeneration. In the present state of our knowledge we cannot predict the result and so are not justified in encouraging such unions. We must bear in mind that these Primary Races are capable of much subdivision and we must carefully study the mass of material which is available; if only because this is essential to any intelligently planned scheme of Empire migration.

Socially, intermarriages between some of these primitive peoples may be unobjectionable, because they are sufficiently primitive to have escaped the devastating complexities of civilization, but each case must be considered on its merits.

Among civilized peoples of the same Primary Race, intermarriage is less desirable than is commonly thought. Biologically, there are the same possibilities of hybrid vigour and of degeneration and the distinction between Fair Caucasians and Dark Caucasians is probably important. Socially, however, the complexities of the civilized mind militate against the harmony of such married lives and this must have great weight with the eugenicist.

Much of what I have said may be summarized in one verse of Kipling's poem, "The Stranger."

" This was my father's belief
And this is also mine :
Let the corn be all one sheaf
And the grapes be all one vine,
Ere our children's teeth are set on edge
By bitter bread and wine."